

## MILNES' BILL PASSED

And a Big Lawsuit is Confidentially Anticipated From It.

## AT. WHITE A FRIEND TO REPORTERS

He introduces a Bill to Open the Divorce Case Files—\$10,000 for the Library—Workingmen Make Themselves Heard—Routine Work.

LANSING, April 23.—The Senate Committee on State Affairs this morning recommended the passage of Senator McCormick's bill to regulate the charges of telephone companies. The Committee on State Library favorably reported the most liberal appropriation bill for that institution ever framed. It is the House bill amended so as to give the library \$10,000 for the two years 1891-2, and to authorize the State librarian to employ all necessary assistants at not to exceed \$800 per annum each.

## MILNES' RAILROAD BILL.

The Senate in the afternoon resumed the consideration of Senator Milnes' famous Michigan Southern Railroad bill, which had been partially considered in the forenoon. The bill was on its final passage and at this critical moment Senator Wisner arose and said: "Mr. President, I am opposed to this bill, and have been from start to finish. I know and you Senators know that the bill is unjust and unconstitutional. The passage of it will be followed, as my friend Senator Milnes admits, by a big lawsuit with the railroad company, and I know that the Supreme Court will decide the law unconstitutional. The State will be put to a great expense. I want the Senators now here to remember what I say, and when the law comes up for a test, and is settled as I prophesy, I want them to recall the words of an old farmer." After this characteristic introduction he entered upon a long and carefully prepared argument against the bill. Senator Milnes repeated his oft-told tale, and Senators Doran and Benson spoke briefly in favor of the bill. After Senator Milnes and Wisner had exhausted the subject and each other, both bills passed by 29 yeas to 2 nays—Friedlander and Wisner. These bills provide for the repeal of the old Michigan Railroad charter and the bringing of the company under the general railroad law. The Senate in committee of the whole considered and passed the Miner electoral bill, with the committee amendment for the election of two electors in an eastern and a western district. The bill was discussed at length, the sole effort of the Democrats being to conciliate the Patrons.

## AGAINST SUPPRESSING COURT FILES.

Among the committee reports in the House this morning was an adverse one by the Committee on Judiciary on Representative White's bill to amend the laws so as to prevent arbitrary suppression of papers filed in cases in the county clerk's office. The proposed amendment consisted of an addition to section 7234 of Howell's Annotated Statutes, in these words: "And all papers filed in any court and in connection with, or as part of any suit or action shall become the property of the court and shall remain in the custody of the proper officer of the court, shall be open to inspection as public documents, and the same rules shall apply to the publication of such papers, as applies to the publication of proceedings in open court, except in cases where a capias is sworn out or where it is necessary to get service in attachment cases, in which cases the papers may not be made public until the arrest, or the service contemplated shall have been made." On motion of Representative Barkworth, the bill was placed on the general order, and it will stand on its own merits before the House.

## AN AVALANCHE OF REPORTS.

The House Committee on Education reported favorably Representative Wagner's bill for the establishment of the township school district system in the Upper Peninsula. The Committee on State Affairs made a favorable report on Representative Richardson's railroad bill, to bring under the general law all companies now operating under special charters. Since in Town's bill relative to procuring attorneys appearing before the Supreme court in criminal proceedings was favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee. Representative Miner's bill adding 21 new sections to the act for the incorporation of building and loan associations was adversely reported by the Committee on Private Corporations. The chairman of that committee, Representative Marsh, says that this adverse report was made because the national and local associations could not agree upon the bill and they will be allowed to fight it out before the legislature. The bill was placed on the general order. The Committee on Ways and Means reported without recommendation the Dodge bill, authorizing the payment of state bounties to soldiers. It provides for equalizing the bounty on the basis of \$100. It appropriates \$200,000 for each of the years 1891-92. The bill was placed on the general order.

## MUSKOGEE'S MADDLE STRAIGHTENED UP.

The House spent some time this forenoon over Representative Gook's bill directing the Auditor to credit to the county of Muskegon about \$8000 of delinquent taxes, assessed upon certain lands within said county and granted to the State by acts of Congress of June 3, 1850, and March 4, 1857, while the title to the lands was in the United States or the State. The bill was upon its passage and was strongly opposed by Representative Barkworth, and defended by Representative Cook. The bill got just 31 yeas in its favor and the Speaker declared the bill passed. Representative Barkworth, however, claimed that the bill should receive a two-thirds vote, but the Speaker overruled the point. Senator Doran's bill to protect associations or unions of workmen and artisans in their labels, trade marks and forms of advertisement

ment was passed by the House this forenoon; also Representative Tripp's bill to authorize any railroad company operating a road, whose property is not mortgaged, to issue bonds secured by mortgages on its property and franchises.

In the House this afternoon Representative Fildew presented a preamble and resolution adopted by the Detroit Council of Trades and Labor Unions, representing over 4000 wage-workers. It protested against the appropriation of \$40,000 to establish the manufacture of furniture in the Ionia House of Correction, because "the effect of such a movement would be to lose a large amount of money to the State and tend to demoralize the trade by throwing upon the market poorly made furniture." The House spent a long time in the consideration of the election bill. The committee, on motion of Representative Diekmann, sent the bill to a select committee of three, for a final revision.

## CLUBBED THE NOTIOUS STRIKERS.

Detroit Policemen Are Forced to Quell the Mob With Their Sticks.

DETROIT, April 23.—The street car officials decided this afternoon to start running cars for the evening service on Woodward-ave. The first car got away all right followed by a patrol wagon carrying a number of officers. The second car started immediately after without the protection of the officers, and after proceeding a short distance was thrown on its side and across the track by the strikers. The first car continued its course and finally reached the river front and made the return trip in safety. The car which had been lying at the river front all day was then started at breakneck speed up the hill. The mob, composed of at least 10,000 people, closed about the car and finally succeeded in stopping it. Hendrie, treasurer of the company, got on the platform with its driver, and pulling his revolver pointed it threateningly at the crowd. This caused intense excitement and bricks began to be thrown through the car windows and it looked as if the car would be torn in pieces. The car was then started back to the river. The crowd pursued and unhitching the horses tried to run the car into the river. A large force of police came up and charging into the crowd clubbed them unmercifully and arrested a number of the ringleaders. No more attempts were made to run cars and the crowd dispersed.

## BISMARCK'S FRIENDS ANGRY.

LONDON, April 23.—A Hamburg dispatch says that Bismarck's friends are indignant at the reported use of the Guelph fund in an attempt to defeat him. The fund being entirely at the disposal of the Kaiser it is said, has been drawn upon to a considerable amount to prevent the election of Bismarck, although it is now reported that the Kaiser may dissolve the Reichstag in order to have a respite from Bismarck, although now that it is known that Bismarck is willing to enter the Reichstag, his friends believe that half a dozen seats would be offered to him.

## BITTEN BY MASTIFFS.

MADRID, April 23.—Two huge and fierce mastiffs, owned by General Pando, escaped yesterday and rushing through the streets attacked a youth of fourteen named Diego Martinez. The boy's shrieks attracted a crowd of people, who tried to drive the dogs from their human prey, but their efforts proved futile. A dozen policemen finally arrived and rescued the boy, who by this time was dying. Twenty-seven gaping wounds were found upon his body.

## BUSTON GOES HOME FOR GOOD.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—United States Treasurer Huston left for Indiana to-night. He will not return. Mr. Nebecker, the new Treasurer, is expected to assume charge of the Treasurer's office Saturday, though he may do so at an earlier date. He telegraphed Monday that he would reach Washington Thursday, but has not arrived yet.

## FILED A BIG MORTGAGE.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 23.—A mortgage for \$1,500,000, given by the New Jersey Steamship Company (People's Line) to the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, has been filed with the county clerk. Of the bonds \$311,000 is at once cashed, and \$1,189,000 for a new steamboat and the remainder for general purposes.

## ARKANSAS RIVER RISING.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., April 23.—The Arkansas river at this point is on a great boom. A rise of eleven feet has taken place since Tuesday evening, and it is still rising. An overflow and much damage to the growing crops is feared. The \$15,000 pontoon bridge at Dardanelle was washed away yesterday.

## STRIKE FOR EIGHT HOURS.

NEW YORK, April 23.—The 700 members of the New York Stone Masons' Protective Union struck this morning for the eight-hour rule. The union is composed almost entirely of Italians, who have been receiving \$3.50 a day of nine hours. They now demand the same wages for eight hours.

## TOBACCONISTS FAIL.

LOUISVILLE, April 23.—H. P. Thompson & Co., of Winchester, the largest tobacco-buying firm in the state, have failed. The liabilities are placed at \$250,000, with assets unknown, but much less. The cause of the failure was, it is said, speculation in tobacco.

## PIERCED TO THE HEART.

LYONS, Iowa, April 23.—Earl Britt, aged 8, while playing with some other boys, fell on an open knife which he was carrying, piercing his heart and causing instant death.

## CROUSE TO ASSUME DUTIES.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Third Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Crouse will assume the duties of his office next Monday.

## DAVID R. SIGNS A BILL.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 22.—The Governor this afternoon signed Gillett's bill concerning the Niagara Falls Power Company.

## KILLED HIMSELF.

CHICAGO, April 23.—W. F. Peironnet, once a prominent operator on the Chicago board of trade, was found dead in a room at McRoy's hotel. A package of morphine was found at his side, and it is believed that he took his own life.

## WORK OF LAS CASAS

Dr. Fiske Reviews the Life and Successes of the Spanish Priest.

## HIS DOCTRINE OF LOVE PREVAILS

And the Superstitious Sons of the Forest Are Freed From Their Shackles and Converted to the Religion of Christianity—The Work of Las Casas.

A large audience greeted Dr. John Fiske last evening, at Hartman's Hall, to hear his lecture upon "Las Casas, the Protector of the Indians." After describing the manner in which slavery was first established among the Indians, he said:

Bartholomew Las Casas was born in Seville, in 1483. He came across and lived with Ovando, and was the first Christian minister in this country. He was a diplomatist, an able man in all respects, fearless and honest, with a fervid temperament, and a voluminous writer of the history of the time. Las Casas was a truthful writer. It was he that said of Ovando, "He was a good governor, but not for Indians." By 1499, communities of Indians were suffering serfdom. In 1503, Ovando was given carte blanche to enforce work from the Indians for wages and to sell the Caribs into slavery. It was a disastrous order, for he did as he pleased and paid no wages. He distributed groups of Indians among the Spaniards and they made them absolute slaves. With such supply of cheap labor they were worked to death. They were burned alive, and torn to pieces by bloodhounds.

They tortured them (in the name of Christ). The Indians became scarce and soon the system of kidnapping began. Diego was Ovando's successor. With such supply of cheap labor they were worked to death. They were burned alive, and torn to pieces by bloodhounds.

## RUDELY SPURNED BY THE BISHOP.

A Franciscan Monk took the side of the Spaniards, but nothing came of it at that time. Las Casas was kind to the Indians and his heart was stirred. Diego made up his mind to conquer Cuba, and Las Casas went along. As he was the only priest, he was the church in the island, and he did much to alleviate suffering. On reading the Bible he became convinced of the sin of slavery. He determined to oppose it, root and branch. He gave up his own slaves and preached against slavery. He was violently opposed.

He went to Spain and appealed to the bishop, who treated him rudely. The king died and the throne went to Charles, a boy of 16. He went to the regent and received encouragement. The Spaniards in America were held as transgressors of the law, and Las Casas was made "Protector of the Indians." The mission was not worked and there was difficulty. He was hindered every step by the bishop, and he could do no good work among the colonists. Then he proposed to establish a colony where there should be no slavery. On account of misdeeds before, the colony was attacked and massacred.

In 1520 Las Casas obtained a decree prohibiting enslaving of Indians in the new countries conquered by the Spaniards. His mind became broader and clearer and, wonderful as it seems, he announced that it was sinful to convert sinners except by words of love and by reason.

## CONQUERED THEM BY LOVE.

He was two centuries in advance of his time. North of Guatemala was a country of people like the Aztecs, great fighters, semi-civilized, whom the Spaniards had attempted in vain to conquer. Las Casas determined to carry his doctrine of love into this country. By agreement no slavery would be allowed in the country if Las Casas should succeed in securing this country. He translated the Bible into complete in the language of this people and sent by traders these translations into the country. The traders did good work, and changed their magic couplets. In answer to questions the traders told of these monks as men of good deeds. The king sent a chief to see if these monks were as good as the traders said. He was satisfied and the monks were invited to go to the country. The king was converted and in the course of a year the country was converted. The peaceful victory was won. The king was taken to visit the Spanish governor who was a ruffian. The governor bent his head reverently to Las Casas. In 1519 the order that no lay Spaniard should go into that country, was ratified. It was called Vera Paz "True Peace." The work was permanent. The peaceful victory was won. The king was taken to visit the Spanish governor who was a ruffian. The governor bent his head reverently to Las Casas. In 1519 the order that no lay Spaniard should go into that country, was ratified. It was called Vera Paz "True Peace." The work was permanent. The peaceful victory was won.

## FIGHTING IN THE COURTS.

Charges and Counter Charges by Cook Strikers and Manager.

UNIONTOWNS, Pa., April 23.—The hearing on the motion to make permanent the preliminary injunction restraining Worthy Foreman McShoy and thirty other strikers from interfering with the running of Frick's West Leisening works, was held today. After a long and able argument, the injunction was made permanent against thirty-one of the fifty-two men. McShoy was then arrested and held in \$300 bail for the court, on a charge of conspiracy. McShoy in turn made an information charging General Manager Lynch, of the Frick Company, with assault and threats to kill. Lynch gave bail for the court.

## QUINT AT MT. PLEASANT.

Strikers Are Said To Be Raising Dynamite—Socialists Meeting.

MT. PLEASANT, Pa., April 23.—All is quiet in this district of the coke region today. Tents for a thousand people were received today and will be distributed at once among those who have been evicted. A report is current that extensive purchases of dynamite have been made by the strikers within the last few days. The works are well guarded, however, and it is not thought that an effective use of explosive can be made. It is proposed to hold a socialist meeting here Monday, and should the associates carry the red flag as their emblems, there will undoubtedly be serious trouble.

## BANKS AND BANKING

Commissioner Sherwood Replies to the Senate's Inquiries.

## THINKS NO CHANGE OF LAW IS NEEDED

Sixty-nine Banking Institutions Report Loans Exceeding Twenty-seven Millions Mostly on Farm Lands. The Laws Are Safe and Ample.

LANSING, Mich., April 23.—The Bank Commissioner, F. C. Sherwood, today sent a communication to the Senate, in reply to a resolution of that body calling for information on the subject of farm mortgages.

"In response to said resolution," he says, "I beg leave to report that on December 19 last—the last report received—106 State banks, sixty-seven of which were savings banks or banks with savings departments, and two trust companies reported to this department commercial loans, \$27,628,144.16; stocks, bonds and mortgages, \$18,849,637.08. Of the latter, \$5,337,522.80 were stocks and bonds and \$13,512,114.28 were mortgages. From examinations made during the past year my opinion is that a large proportion of money loaned by the State banks on mortgage security is loaned on farms and homes of laboring men, and that a very small proportion is loaned on business property, as those loans are usually taken by insurance companies, or eastern capitalists at a lower rate of interest than western banks charge, viz: 6 1/2 per cent., which is the average rate of interest charged by our State banks. In this connection I might say, that the commercial loans are not all made to business men. Banks in our farming districts loan to farmers more readily than they do to business men, and without mortgage security.

## DIFFERENT KINDS OF BANKS.

In complying with your request to "advise the Senate of such changes in the banking law of the State as may be perfectly safe to the investor and afford relief to the farmer," I will say that, in our State, we have three classes of banks, viz: private banks, National banks and State banks. Private banks, not being under supervision, I am unable to inform you how, or in what manner they loan their deposits. National banks are restricted to a commercial business, and cannot loan on mortgage security. State banks are permitted by law to transact both a commercial and savings business. Commercial banks are especially for the accommodation of farmers and business men. They are and should be exclusively devoted to the collection, safe keeping and employment in temporary loans the floating capital of the country. Every farmer, merchant and manufacturer is dependent upon the commercial banks for funds to enable them to market the products of the farm, and the goods of the merchant and manufacturer. Our State banking law permits commercial banks to loan on mortgage security an amount not exceeding 50 per cent. of their capital stock, and in my judgment the law in this respect should not be changed.

## NO CHANGES ARE NEEDED.

The savings departments of our State banks receive and care for the surplus money of the country, that is not needed in active business. They are required by law to keep on hand 15 per cent. of their deposits in cash, to provide for the current daily business demands. Thirty-four per cent. they can loan on mortgage security, and the balance of their deposits is invested in safe securities. The amount of certificates of deposit could be increased to 50 per cent. of their capital stock, and in my judgment the law in this respect should not be changed.

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## MRS. CARTER HAS NOT ELOPED.

NEW YORK, April 23.—Mrs. David Belasco, concerning whose husband, the well-known playwright, a sensational story was published this morning, left last night for her country seat at Atlantic Highlands, N. J. Before going she left a statement for publication to the effect that the reported elopement of Mr. Belasco with Mrs. Leslie Carter was false. Mr. Belasco, she says, sailed for Europe on Wednesday last with work on the same steamship with Mrs. Carter and with Mrs. Belasco's full knowledge. He had gone to Paris on professional business, and on the way over occupied a stateroom in company with Hamilton Aide, the author of the farce "Dr. Rill."

## BASE BALL.

NEW YORK, April 23.—League: New York 6, Boston 11; Cincinnati 3, Cleveland 6; Pittsburgh 2, Chicago 9; Brooklyn 2, Philadelphia 2. American Association.—At Boston: Boston 5, Baltimore 12. At Louisville: Louisville 11, Cincinnati 11. At Cleveland: Cleveland 5, St. Paul 6. At Washington: Washington 9, Athletics 9. Darkened stopped the game.

WESTERN ASSOCIATION.—At Kansas City: Kansas City 3, St. Louis City 7. At Omaha: Omaha 5, St. Paul 4. At Lincoln: Lincoln 4, Milwaukee 3. At Denver: Denver 14, Minneapolis 10.

## DETROIT GETS \$20,000.

LANSING, Mich., April 23.—The House Committee on Ways and Means this evening reported an appropriation of \$20,000 to aid in the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the emancipation of the freed Army of the Republic at Detroit. In committee of the whole the House passed Representative Miner's bill for the appointment of Detroit police commissioners by the mayor instead of by the Governor.

## STRANGE SPIRITUALISM.

A Woman Wants a Divorce Because the Spirits Demand It.

BOSTON, April 23.—Spirits formed a very important factor in a divorce case tried in this city yesterday before Judge Staples. They ordered the marriage in the first place, and then ordered the tie broken, and the man and woman obeyed without a murmur. The couple are William Peck, the Spiritualist lecturer, who begs suit for divorce, and Sarah C. Vetter, better known as Mrs. H. L. Lake, speaker at the First Spiritualist temple. Her maiden name was Sara Generva Chaffa, and her life as unfolded today has been eventful. When a mere girl it became a part of her creed that even a married woman has an inalienable right to her person, her property and her name, and she has advocated those ideas ever since. That accounts for the different names of the couple.

## MARRIED A TROUBLE-MAKER.

When Mrs. Lake was 17 years old she started out to make her own living. She drifted to New York and studied elocution. There she met a young and handsome Catholic priest, Rev. Father Henry S. Lake. It was a case of love at first sight. He renounced his religion for the purpose of marrying her, and they lived together for two years. He died early in 1876. She was overwhelmed with grief until a spiritualist medium gave her an opportunity to commune with her departed spouse. Her spirit husband told her to enter the lecture field. For eleven years Mr. Peck and Mrs. Lake lived together as husband and wife, traveling all over the country lecturing on matters pertaining to spirits.

In 1888 the spirits thought Mr. Peck and Mrs. Lake had lived together long enough, and so they ordered Mrs. Lake to sever the marital bonds which held them. Mrs. Lake kindly followed the dictates of her spirit guide. She told Prof. Peck of the commands she had received from the spirit world. He is a pronounced spiritualist, but he did not like this phase of the situation.

## GABRIELLE GREELEY A BRIDE.

She is Married to a Preacher Whom She Has Long Admired.

CHAPPAQUA, N. Y., April 23.—The wedding of Miss Gabrielle Greeley took place this morning, in the Pleasantville Episcopal church, St. John's, the ceremony being performed by the rector, the Rev. Benjamin T. Hall. Before the ceremony the bride and groom received the holy communion, Slayner's arrangement of the communion service being used. The surpliced choirs of St. John's church and St. Peter's church, of Westchester, were combined for the ceremony, and organs and harps accompanied them. Only the relatives and the nearest and dearest friends were present. After the ceremony the wedding party went to New York, where they were given a reception. Mr. Clendenin is a tall, slim, dark-complexioned, energetic young Episcopalian clergyman of High Church proclivities. His parish, St. Peter's, of Westchester, is one of the oldest in America, having been founded 200 years ago. He is the son of George Clendenin, of Washington, and a graduate of Columbia University and Princeton Theological Seminary. He has always been a High Church Episcopalian.

## PITCHER WEYHING ARRESTED.

He Destroyed the Pictures in a Saloon While Intoxicated.

BROOKLYN, April 23.—"Gus" Weyhing, the well-known pitcher of the Athletic ball club of Philadelphia was arrested early this morning, on an old warrant, while asleep in a parlor car on his way from Boston to Washington. Weyhing was a member of the Brooklyn Players' league team last summer and after the season closed destroyed valuable pictures and the frescoing of the walls in Piel Bros' garden, East New York. He had been drinking with some friends and threw mustard cups, beer and bread at the walls and paintings, destroying them. He was held in bail for the action of the grand jury.

## BANQUETING TEMPLARS.

Last evening the Greenwood Lodge of Good Templars held a social session in observance of their second anniversary. The program opened with a guitar solo by Miss Rose, after which "The History of Greenwood Lodge" was given by Mrs. Sherman. F. W. Tidball sang a baritone solo. "The effects of alcohol on the human system" was illustrated by charts by C. C. Howland, which he sang a comic song, "Reuben Glue." "A Morning Sermon" was W. J. Steckel's subject, and Miss Rose sang a song very sweetly. A. C. Reece gave a recitation, as did also Charles Ploetz. The close of the regular program was a speech by Mr. Fellows. The remainder of the evening was devoted to social converse over a banquet table.

## BERKELEY AND GAY LYCEUM.

The Berkeley and Gay lyceum gave an entertainment last evening at Good Templars' hall and presented a varied program. Music was furnished by the Smalley orchestra, Miss Nellie Baker, James Loomis and daughter and a quartet composed of Madeline Knight and Bateman and Messrs. Knight. There were recitations by Masters Julie and James Knowlton, and Miss Nellie Baker, Ed. Bennett and J. C. Barrett gave short talks and the entertainment closed with an impromptu discussion on corporal punishment of school children. There are now 45 members of the lyceum and interest in it is steadily increasing.

## COULDN'T WIN A JAMBOREE.

William Hawthorn, an old veteran at the Soldiers' Home, drew his quarterly allowance from the Government. He wanted the greater share of it for whisky, becoming boisterous and obnoxious to his old comrades that he was arrested and brought before Justice Westfall, who sentenced him to jail yesterday for 30 days for drunk and disorderly.

## DICKY HAS FLUNKED

He Gives Official Notice to the Court House Committee.

## THAT HE WILL PROCEED NO FURTHER

With the Construction of the Big Calumet—He is Afraid That He Can Not Get His Pay, Hence He Will Not Continue.

The Western Construction Company has given formal notice of its intention to surrender the court house contract. The reasons for this conclusion were fully set forth in an interview with Mr. Morton, the superintendent, published in this paper last week. The notice after reciting the differences between the contract company and the building committee, as well as the circumstances attending the original contract and the proceedings under which the appropriation was authorized, goes on to say: "Your building committee assert that the Western Construction Company was aware of the foregoing provision of the constitution (Article 10, section 6, State constitution), when it made the contract. That may be, but the \$100,000 exceeded the amount of the bonds by only \$2273, and for this small amount the company probably entertained no doubt that the county would pay, and that there would be no protest from any voters. But when your board had exceeded their authority by many thousands of dollars, this company as now constituted entertained doubts as to being able to oblige the county to pay in case some voter should attempt to restrain the county from issuing a sum so largely in excess of the appropriation, and it therefore sought legal counsel. The cost of the building to date, including extras already done and ordered to be done, amounts in round figures to about \$175,000. Add to this architect's fees, the salary of the superintendent, Mr. Woodward, the salary and expenses of the building committee, and extras to come, and extras which cannot be avoided, the building will cost when completed not much, if any, inside of \$200,000; and this, too, exclusive of the furniture, making the total cost at an inside figure, not less than \$215,000—or \$55,000 more than the people of Kent county voted. Of this sum about \$50,000 would be due this company when the building was completed. In making these figures we only estimate in round numbers, but our figures are none too high.

## NO ASSURANCE OF COMPENSATION.

There is, we are advised, a legal question as to the right of your committee to use other money, and we do not feel like taking chances involving such a sum; and inasmuch as your Board of Supervisors have exceeded their authority by so vast an amount, it is but fair and just that we should have some security. If you have a right to use or not use other money, what assurance have we that the money will be used to pay this company. We can not look for our pay from proceeds of unold real estate. We asked you for security at the meeting of the Board of Supervisors about a month ago, and when you met in an adjourned session the following day, we telegraphed that we did not consider the contract binding on the county, and did not see how we could safely proceed unless the contract was binding. Both our request and demands were ignored. We have no means to change our view concerning our request for security from the county. The proceedings of the Board of Supervisors intimate that many of its members entertained the same opinion that we do, i. e., that you had exceeded your authority and that the contract was void, and that if you could not give us the extent of forty or fifty thousand dollars, you could with equal propriety expend a million dollars of the county money if you had it on hand in the liquor fund or real estate.

## WILL PROCEED NO FURTHER.

It evidently is clearly the opinion of many of the members of the board that the contract is not binding upon the county; otherwise they would not hesitate to recommend that the county give the Western Construction Company security or bonds for full payment when the building is completed. As stated before, we do not feel justified in taking any chances involving so large a sum of money, and as you refuse us, or rather ignore our request for security, we must and do decline to go ahead with the building.

The Western Construction Company, however, desires to protect its subcontractors to the end that they shall lose nothing. The building can be completed under the present subcontractors cheaper and quicker than in any other way, and in order to afford the county every facility, and to protect the subcontractors, claiming only such surplus (if the county insists on the legality of the contract), as is left after all subcontractors have been paid in full. We will also co-operate with the county, and furnish to your committee complete detailed statements, or any information concerning the amount of money paid, and the accounts of all subcontractors, in order that the subcontractors may be allowed to proceed without loss to themselves, and with the greatest possible speed. We do not ask to be released from our bonds to the county, as the contract being void, we consider all bonds void. We have requested our superintendent to seek other employment, and notified all subcontractors of the present state of affairs, and of our determination to proceed no further.

## CEDAR BLOCKS NOT WANTED.

The residents of Cherry-st. are not proud, but they are particular. The Common Council passed a resolution to pave the street with cedar blocks on concrete, and thought that it was straining the limit a little when it did so. The residents of the street have been studying up the paving question, and have decided that they want the best in the market. A petition has been circulated by several residents of the street and a majority have signed it. They will ask the council to rescind their former action and make the pavement asphalt instead of cedar blocks.

## DEFERRED TO AN OLD BILL.

The old bill case of the Peninsular Botton Passenger Company against the Trade Union was up in the Federal court yesterday. The defendants entered a demurrer to plaintiff's declaration, and the matter was taken under advisement by Judge Bertram.